


Approved: 
Date: February 2014

Juvenile Intake and Structured Decision-Making Policy

I. Policy

Juvenile intake decisions are made regarding placement, taking into account the federal guidelines contained in the [Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002](#) and the Nebraska Juvenile Code [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-246](#), and acknowledges the responsibility of the juvenile court to act to preserve the public peace and security. Juvenile intake/probation officers will be familiar with these guidelines.

The juvenile intake/probation officer will be responsible for making decisions that are least restrictive for the juvenile regarding the release, detention, or placement of juveniles brought before him/her by law enforcement authorities for law violations, warrants and runaway status.

II. Purpose

The purpose of juvenile intake is to detain only those juveniles who pose a significant risk to the community or who are at risk to flee the court's jurisdiction. The most appropriate options that are the least restrictive and intrusive to the juvenile and their family will be chosen. The primary objective is to balance the best interest of the juvenile and family, with the safety of the community.

III. Reference

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 29-2258](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-246](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-247](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-248](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-249](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-250](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-253](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-255](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-256](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-257](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-260](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-260.01](#)

[Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-271](#)

Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) ANNIE E. CASEY FOUNDATION
<http://www.jdaihelpdesk.org/Pages/Default.aspx>

[Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002](#)

IV. Procedure

A. Conducting Juvenile Intake Interviews

A face-to-face interview is required for every Juvenile Intake request, with limited exceptions. When interviewing, the intake/probation officer shall strive to conduct the interview with the juvenile and/or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) in a private setting.

B. Law Violations

A juvenile taken into temporary custody for a law violation pursuant to [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-248](#) may be delivered to the probation officer who shall determine the need for appropriate placement of the juvenile as provided in [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-260 and 43-260.01](#).

C. Warrants

A juvenile taken into custody for a legal warrant of arrest pursuant to [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-250\(5\)](#) shall be delivered to the probation officer, who will determine the need for appropriate placement of the juvenile as provided in [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-260 and 43-260.01](#).

D. Runaways

A juvenile taken into temporary custody for runaway status pursuant to [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-248](#) may be delivered to the probation officer, who will determine the need for appropriate placement of the juvenile as provided in [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-260](#) and [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-260.01](#) and pursuant to Interstate Commission for Juvenile rules related to out of state runaway status juveniles.

E. Information Gathering

The gathering of accurate information at the time of the intake interview is critical. Probation officers shall investigate all information pertinent to the juvenile's current situation, including past history per [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-253](#). Probation officers shall balance the least restrictive option with the safety of the community in determining the placement.

F. Release of Detained Juvenile Prior to Probable Cause Finding

If a juvenile has been authorized for an out-of-home placement as a result of juvenile intake, the probation officer may release/change placement of the juvenile prior to any judicial probable cause finding based on [Neb. Rev. Stat. § 43-254](#) and [Neb. Rev. Stat. §](#)

[43-255](#), or in the absence of a Petition or Complaint being filed by the prosecuting attorney.

G. Documentation within the Nebraska Probation Information System

Electronic documentation of the juvenile intake shall be completed within the Nebraska Probation Information System.

H. Confidentiality

All probation related information shall be held in strict confidentiality, consistent with the [Juvenile Confidential Record Information and Sealed Records Policy](#).